



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5178

LCO No. 759



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF DOGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 22-338 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2016*):

4 (a) Each owner or keeper of a dog of the age of six months or older,
5 except dogs kept under a kennel license as provided in section 22-342,
6 shall cause such dog to be licensed in the town clerk's office in the
7 town where such dog is kept, on or before June thirtieth, [annually]
8 and every three years thereafter, or at such time as [such] the dog
9 becomes six months old, and [annually] every three years thereafter,
10 on or before June thirtieth. The owner or keeper shall pay to such town
11 clerk for such license [the sum of seven] a license fee of twenty-one
12 dollars for each neutered male dog or spayed female dog and the sum
13 of [twelve] thirty-six dollars for each unneutered male dog [and each]
14 or unspayed female dog, and [one] three additional [dollar in each
15 case] dollars per dog as the town clerk's fee for issuing a [tag and
16 license as provided in] license and tag pursuant to section 22-340.

17 [Two] Six dollars from each license fee [collected] paid for a neutered
18 or spayed dog shall be deposited into the animal population control
19 account, established under section 22-380g. If an owner or keeper of a
20 dog fails to [procure a license] cause such dog to be licensed as
21 required by this section, such owner or keeper shall pay to the town
22 clerk the appropriate license fee specified in this section, the town
23 clerk's fee and a penalty of one dollar for each month or fraction
24 thereof the dog remains unlicensed.

25 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 22-339a of the general statutes is
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
27 *1, 2016*):

28 (b) Any person acquiring an unlicensed dog from a dog pound
29 shall be issued a temporary license by the town clerk, or his agent
30 deputized pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which shall expire
31 thirty days after the issuance thereof. Prior to the expiration of a
32 temporary license, the person holding the temporary license shall
33 [apply for a license for the remainder of the license year, pay the
34 appropriate license fee specified in] cause the dog to be licensed in the
35 manner and pursuant to the terms and conditions provided in section
36 22-338, as amended by this act. [, and submit a certificate signed by a
37 veterinarian, or a copy thereof, stating (1) that the dog has been
38 vaccinated against rabies, (2) the date of the vaccination and (3) the
39 duration of the immunity provided by the vaccine. No license shall be
40 issued unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided by
41 the vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.]

42 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 22-340 of the general statutes is
43 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
44 *1, 2016*):

45 (a) Each person complying with the provisions of section 22-338, as
46 amended by this act, 22-339 or 22-342 shall receive from the town clerk
47 a license on a form prescribed by the commissioner, which license shall

48 contain a description of the dog and the number under which such dog
49 is licensed. The town clerk shall issue to such person a tag or plate of
50 material prescribed by the commissioner, upon which shall be
51 distinctly marked the name of the town in which such dog is licensed,
52 the license number and the [year of] license period. No town clerk
53 shall issue such license or tag to any person for any neutered male or
54 spayed female dog not previously licensed as such unless the person
55 causing the dog to be licensed exhibits to the town clerk a certificate
56 from a licensed veterinarian stating that such veterinarian has
57 neutered or spayed the dog or that, after examining the dog, [he] the
58 veterinarian finds that the dog has been neutered or spayed.

59 Sec. 4. Section 22-349 of the general statutes is repealed and the
60 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

61 The town clerk of each town shall, annually, on or before July first,
62 provide the municipal animal control officer or regional animal control
63 officer with a copy of each dog license issued by such clerk in the last
64 three years. Such municipal animal control officer or regional animal
65 control officer shall thereupon make diligent search for any unlicensed
66 dog required to be licensed [by] pursuant to section 22-338, as
67 amended by this act. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in
68 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, establishing procedures
69 for such search. If the owner of any such unlicensed dog is not known,
70 the municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer
71 shall impound such dog. The [owning or keeping of an unlicensed or
72 impounded dog and the failure to purchase a license] failure of an
73 owner or keeper of an unlicensed dog to cause such dog to be licensed,
74 or the failure of an owner or keeper of an impounded dog to cause
75 such dog to be licensed and pay the advertising and redemption fee
76 within one hundred [and] twenty hours from the time the dog was
77 impounded, shall be an infraction.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-338(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-339a(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-340(a)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-349

Statement of Purpose:

To provide that dog owners license their dogs every three years instead of annually.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]